



FAIRFAX COUNTY

Department of Environmental Management
Office of the Director
12055 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, Virginia 22035-5504

V I R G I N I A

96-12

November 12, 1996

TO: All Architects, Builders, Developers, Engineers, Surveyors
and Contractors Practicing in Fairfax County

SUBJECT: Product Approval Requirements for Exterior Insulation
and Finish Systems (EIFS)

The moisture problems related to Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems (EIFS), reported by the National Home Builders Association, point to the need for inspections for critical phases of EIFS installations as required by the research reports issued by Building Officials & Code Administrators International, Inc. (BOCA) and the National Evaluation Services.

Due to staffing limitations, the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) is unable to provide the level of inspections required by the research reports. Therefore, all buildings with EIFS installations will be subject to a certification process resulting in a certification statement being submitted to DEM staff prior to final building approval. The certification statement must attest to the fact that all manufacturer's installation instructions have been followed, including but not limited to caulking and sealing requirements, and that the completed installation complies with the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (VUSBC) and to the applicable BOCA or other nationally recognized research reports.

Permit holders may designate a party to perform inspections and certify installation of EIFS. However, the certification statements must be submitted to DEM on the permit holder's letterhead. EIFS products which do not have a BOCA or other nationally recognized research report will not be approved. Research reports must be identified and noted on County-approved plans.

This procedure will apply to all projects for which permit applications are submitted to DEM on or after January 1, 1997.

If you have any questions regarding EIFS or need additional information, please contact Paul Lynch, Chief, Residential Inspections Branch, at 324-1997 or Shahriar Amiri, Chief, Commercial Inspections Branch at 324-1910.

SIGNATURE ON ORIGINAL

Irving Birmingham, Director

IB/bfj

cc: Shahriar Amiri, Chief, Commercial Inspections Branch, Division of Inspection Services
Paul Lynch, Chief, Residential Inspections Branch
Central Files